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PAGE 01 GENEVA 09978 01 OF 02 181253Z
ACTION PRM-10

INFO LOG-00 AID-01 AMAD-01 CA-02 CIAE-00 OASY-00 EUR-01
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6414
INFO USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE//ECJ2/J3/J4/J5/EC POLAD//
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SECDEF WASHDC//USDP:HRA//
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EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 GENEVA 009978

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: PREF, EAID, MARR, MASS, AORC, UN
SUBJECT: GENEVA HLWG TO DISCUSS MILITARY SUPPORT FOR
HUMANITARIAN OPERATIONS

1. AMBASSADOR SPIEGEL WILL CHAIR AN 11/21 MEETING OF
THE HUMANITARIAN LIAISON WORKING GROUP (24 DONOR
GOVERNMENTS PLUS THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION) TO DISCUSS
MILITARY SUPPORT FOR HUMANITARIAN OPERATIONS.

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 09978 01 OF 02 181253Z

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER
DATE/CASE ID: 04 NOV 2011 201005065

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2. THE MEETING WILL FEATURE THE FOLLOWING SPEAKERS: UNCLASSIFIED

- LT. GEN. DANIEL R. SCHROEDER, COMMANDER, JOINT TASK FORCE IN ENTEBBE, OPERATION SUPPORT HOPE
- MR. LENNART MYHLBACK, DIRECTOR GENERAL, SWEDISH RESCUE SERVICE AGENCY
- MR. ERIC MORRIS, DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONAL SUPPORT, UNHCR

3. IN ORDER TO STRUCTURE THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING, WE HAVE DISTRIBUTED IN ADVANCE THE FOLLOWING AS POSSIBLE POINTS FOR DISCUSSION.

BEGIN TEXT.

A. SERVICE PACKAGES: SERVICE PACKAGES WERE USED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE RWANDAN REFUGEE CRISIS, AND SEVERAL GOVERNMENTS ASKED THEIR MILITARIES TO PROVIDE THEM. SOME OBSERVERS BELIEVE THE SERVICE PACKAGES WERE SUCCESSFUL BUT NEED TO BE BETTER DEFINED, TO BE PUT INTO SMALLER AND MORE MANAGEABLE SIZES THAT ARE ACCESSIBLE TO MORE DONOR GOVERNMENTS, AND TO USE STANDARDIZED LANGUAGE UNDERSTANDABLE TO DONORS, RELIEF AGENCIES AND IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS. SHOULD THE SERVICE PACKAGE CONCEPT BE IMPROVED AND MADE AN INTEGRAL PART OF HUMANITARIAN RELIEF OPERATIONS? WHEN DOES THE MILITARY PROVIDE A UNIQUE CAPABILITY OR A COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE (IN TERMS OF SPEED AND EFFICIENCY)? SHOULD SUCH USE OF MILITARY ASSETS BE LIMITED TO "SURGE CAPACITY" IN THE INITIAL STAGES OF AN EMERGENCY, OR SHOULD MILITARIES BE EXPECTED TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO HUMANITARIAN AGENCIES ON UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 09978 01 OF 02 181253Z
A LONGER-TERM BASIS?

B. ADVANCE COMMITMENTS: TO WHAT EXTENT CAN HUMANITARIAN AGENCIES DEPEND ON MILITARIES TO PROVIDE SUPPORT WHEN LARGE-SCALE EMERGENCIES OCCUR? ARE DONOR GOVERNMENTS WILLING TO COMMIT ASSETS FROM THEIR MILITARY FORCES IN ADVANCE OF A HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCY? WHAT ARE THE LIMITS TO STANDBY AGREEMENTS WITH THE AGENCIES? CAN MILITARY INVOLVEMENT BE MADE ROUTINE, OR WILL IT GENERALLY BE ON AN AD HOC BASIS? TO WHAT EXTENT CAN

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NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS BE BROUGHT INTO SUCH
ADVANCE PLANNING?

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C. MILITARY ASSISTANCE: HOW DO MILITARY ESTABLISHMENTS OF DONOR GOVERNMENTS BEGIN THE PROCESS OF TRANSFERRING THEIR ADVANCED LOGISTICS, COMMUNICATIONS AND SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGIES TO UN HUMANITARIAN AGENCIES ON A REGULAR BASIS? WHAT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CAN AND SHOULD MILITARIES PROVIDE TO HUMANITARIAN AGENCIES IN ADVANCE OF EMERGENCIES? WHEN IS IT APPROPRIATE TO REQUEST MILITARIES TO PROVIDE IN-KIND STRATEGIC AIRLIFT WITHOUT ADDITIONAL ON-THE-GROUND MILITARY PRESENCE? WHAT OPPORTUNITIES ARE THERE TO SECOND INDIVIDUALS FROM MILITARIES TO HUMANITARIAN AGENCIES? UNDER WHAT CIRCUMSTANCES IS IT DESIRABLE FOR MILITARY FORCES TO BE ENGAGED IN THE DIRECT DELIVERY OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THOSE IN NEED? IS IT COST-EFFECTIVE? WHAT IS THE IMPACT ON SECURITY OF THE FORCES? WHAT IS THE PERCEPTION OF HAVING UNIFORMED MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY PROVIDING AID?

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PAGE 04 GENEVA 09978 01 OF 02 181253Z

D. CIVILIAN-MILITARY COOPERATION: WHAT MEASURES CAN BE TAKEN TO ENHANCE CIVILIAN-MILITARY COOPERATION ON THE GROUND? SHOULD GOVERNMENTS IMPROVE THEIR OWN CIVILIAN-MILITARY COMMUNICATIONS IN ORDER TO RESPOND BETTER TO INTERNATIONAL RELIEF AGENCIES?

E. SECURITY: WHAT ARE THE POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE SECURITY IMPLICATIONS OF THE PRESENCE OF MILITARY FORCES IN COMPLEX HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCIES?

F. INFORMATION SHARING: HOW CAN MILITARIES, CIVILIANS IN GOVERNMENT, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND NGO'S BETTER SHARE THEIR INFORMATION ON A REAL-TIME BASIS DURING A HUMANITARIAN CRISIS? SHOULD SOME TYPE OF COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM BE ESTABLISHED USING INTERNET?

G. HUMANITARIAN SPACE: MILITARY SUPPORT FOR HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITIES GENERALLY FALLS INTO THREE CATEGORIES: OPERATIONS INITIATED BY THE MILITARY (E.G.,

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NORTHERN IRAQ); OPERATIONS WHICH INVOLVE AN OVERLAP

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 09978 02 OF 02 181253Z
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HUMANITARIAN OPERATIONS

BETWEEN PEACEKEEPING AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (E.G.,
BOSNIA); AND OPERATIONS WHICH ARE STRICTLY HUMANITARIAN
(E.G., RWANDAN REFUGEES IN ZAIRE). DO UN RELIEF
AGENCIES NEED, AND CAN THEY MAINTAIN, "HUMANITARIAN
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 09978 02 OF 02 181253Z

SPACE" WHEN UN PEACEKEEPING FORCES ARE PRESENT?

END TEXT.

SPIEGEL

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